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NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 46

1 November 1949

1. The following were present:

Dr. Appleton	State
Mr. Lydman	State
Lt. Col. Ruwet	Army
Dr. Debevoise	Army
Cdr. Howell	Navy
Lt. Cdr. Nutt	Navy
* Mr. Hughes	Navy
Lt. Col. Wade	Air Force
	CIA (Chairman)
	CIA

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\* Representative of Hydrographic Office

2. The Chairman reviewed over-all production progress. The total number of defections on 31 October was 162 sections, as compared with 143 sections on 30 September. In view of this large and increasing number of defections and of the probable effects on production capabilities of recent cuts in funds for the National Defense Agencies, an early revision of the FY 1950 Production Schedule will be necessary. Navy and Air Force have reported that, provided no further cuts are forthcoming, they should be able to meet their NIS commitments for FY 1950. Army, however, has reported that the cuts will definitely lower its production capabilities and that it will be able to present a specific estimate of its revised capabilities early in November (probably about 15 November). Since Army carries a major proportion of the entire production responsibility for the NIS Program, it was decided to await the receipt of Army's estimate before undertaking revision of the FY 1950 Production Schedule. When this schedule has been revised, a production schedule for FY 1951, which will enable advanced production planning, will be formulated.

3. Mr. Hughes explained a proposal of Navy (Hydrographic Office) that Sections 21 (Oceanography) be produced according to oceanographic areas analogous to the geographic areas for which the remainder of Chapters II are produced. He pointed out the following:

a. Just as certain land areas, because of their topographic characteristics, can be better treated as natural geographic units than as terrain units set off by political boundary lines, so certain bodies of water, because of their oceanographic characteristics, can be better treated as oceanographic units than as

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segments contiguous to stretches of coast between political boundaries (as they are now being treated).

b. The present method of producing Sections 21 is inefficient because of the considerable amount of duplication it occasions.

Subsequent discussion led to the following decisions:

a. Hydrographic Office will prepare, according to NIS requirements, complete oceanographic studies for various bodies of water touching upon NIS Areas. These studies will contain a general treatment for the body of water as a whole and localized treatments for segments thereof touching the coasts of NIS Areas.

b. Hydrographic Office will prepare a given Section 21 of NIS by extracting from the studies indicated above one or more general treatments and combining them with the localized treatment, also extracted, for that particular NIS Area.

c. This method of producing Sections 21 will require some revision of the existing production schedule for Chapters II (Military Geography). Such revision will be effected by working-level conference between Hydrographic Office, Navy, and Topographic Branch, ID, and will be incorporated in the general revision (indicated in Paragraph 2 above) of the FY 1950 Production Schedule.

4. It was decided that COMMENTS ON PRINCIPAL SOURCES should be deleted  
These NIS are as follows:

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NIS 67 - Greenland  
NIS 68 - Iceland

5. In view of the fact that Sections 11 (Military Geography) and 12 (Transportation and Telecommunications) of NIS S45 (Okinawa) have been returned for revision which will require an indefinite period to accomplish; that, pending the revision of Sections 11 and 12, additional material with which to amplify Sections 13 (Sociological), 14 (Political), and 15 (Economic) may become available; and that no specific time commitment regarding this special study has been made to the Joint Staff, it was decided to postpone the scheduling of the entire study until, tentatively, July 1950.

6. The Chairman read to the Committee a letter from BGN requesting permission to use in a BGN published volume on Alaskan geographic names certain

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names processed by BGN for the NIS Preliminary Gazetteer on [REDACTED] The Committee decided that, since no security questions are involved, this permission should be granted.

7. Proposed revisions of NIS MEMOS NOS. 5 (Production of Chapters I) and 9 (Classification of NIS) were adopted.

8. The proposed revision of "General Instructions", Standard Instructions for National Intelligence Surveys, was discussed.

9. The next meeting was scheduled for 1000 hours, Tuesday, 8 November, at CIA.

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